

REMARKS

Reconsidered of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 has been amended.

Claims 15-18, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamashita (US Patent No. 5, 946,978). Claim 15 has been further amended to recite that the spring element retention segment continuously engages the radially interior detent contour from within the adjuster during control cable adjustment. On the contrary, the indexing spring 42 of Yamashita extends along the exterior of the adjusting member 40 such that the nose portion 95 of the spring 42 *necessarily* "will be deflected or biased radially *outwardly* from one of the channels 80 or 82 and then ride along the *exterior* surface or threads 78 of the adjusting member 40." see col. 6, lines 54-57 (emphasis added). In other words, the nose portion 95 *discontinuously* engages the channel 80 during control cable adjustment.

Additionally, contrary to Examiner's assertion that "Yamashita's retention segment 95, which *partially* extend axially within the bore 80 as seen in Yamashita's FIG. 5" (emphasis added), FIG. 5 - a cross section of the adjusting member 40 - merely shows a partial radial extension of the nose portion 95 into the channel 80. In other words, because Yamashita discloses an exterior nose portion 95 engaging a channel 80 from *outside* the adjusting member 40, it does not, nor cannot disclose a spring element retention segment extending axially *within* a bore, the spring element retention segment continuously engaging the radially *interior* detent contour from *within* the adjuster during control cable adjustment. For these reasons, this rejection of claim 15 should be withdrawn.

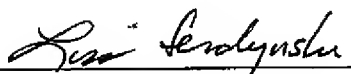
Claims 16-18, 21 and 22 were rejected as claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Since claims 16-18, 21 and 22 depend directly or indirectly from and contain all the limitations of claim 15 as amended, they are felt to overcome the obviousness rejection in the same manner as amended claim 15.

Serial No. 10/605,852

This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN WEISS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lisa Serdynski", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Lisa Serdynski, Attorney
Registration No. 40,307
SRAM Corporation
1333 N. Kingsbury, 4th Floor
Chicago, IL 60622
(312) 664-3652